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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/525,662	02/25/2005	Roelof Herman Willem Salters	NL 020797	9144

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
P.O. BOX 3001
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

TRAN, ANTHAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2827

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/02/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/525,662

Applicant(s)

SALTERS, ROELOF HERMAN
WILLEM

Examiner

Anthan T. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's response filed on November 15, 2006 in which claims 1-10 are pending have been entered of record.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The specification fails to have headings for BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, and BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishida et al. (US Pub. 2003/0021168) in view of Tomita et al. (US Pub. 2003/0156485).

Regarding claim 1, Fig. 1 of Ishida discloses a static semiconductor device comprising: a matrix of static memory cells [3] functionally arranged in rows and columns, bit line circuits [BL1-BLn#, 6, 12, 14], each for writing memory cells in a

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respective one of the column, a word line circuit [WL1, 4] constructed so that the word line is capable of selecting memory cells in a plurality of the rows to receive write data from the bit line driver circuits, and a cell strength control circuitry [11] coupled to the cells [3] and arranged to reduced write strengths required to write data into individual ones of the memory cells [paragraphs 0057, 0058], relative to a drive strength of the bit line circuits [paragraph 0058].

Ishida fails to discloses selecting plurality of rows simultaneously. However, paragraph 0080 of Tomita discloses a static random access memory that selecting plurality of rows simultaneously, and reduce power consumption even if number of rows are selected.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to make a memory device capable of selecting plurality of rows simultaneously. The ordinary artisan would have been motivated to modify Ishida in the manner set forth above in order to have stable high-speed operation.

Regarding claims 2 and 7, Fig. 1 of Ishida discloses wherein the cell strength control circuitry [11] comprises a plurality of power supply reduction circuits [as shown in Fig. 2 and 5], each coupled between a common power supply [Vcc, Fig. 2] and a respective internal power supply line [out, Fig. 2], the memory cells [3] in respective ones of the columns each having power supply inputs [Vccin] coupled a respective one of the internal power supply lines [out], each power supply reduction circuit being arranged to provide a respective power supply voltage drop on the respective one of the internal power supply lines to which that power supply reduction circuit is coupled

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[0058], selectively at least during writing of data into the memory cells [0073, during writing and reading operation].

Regarding claims 3-4 and 8, Fig. 2 of Ishida discloses wherein the power supply reduction circuit [11A] comprises a resistive element [transistor T1] coupled between the common power supply [Vcc] and the internal power supply line [out].

Regarding claims 5 and 9, Fig. 1 of Ishida discloses wherein the bit line circuit for the at least one of the columns comprises a bit-line driver circuit [12, 12 is an precharging circuit that drives voltage to the bit line (BL1-BLn#)] with a power supply input [Vcc] coupled to the internal power supply line [Vccin].

Regarding claims 6 and 10, Fig. 6 of Ishida discloses wherein the bit-line driver circuit has a control input [122B, paragraph 0079] to receive a control voltage [Vcc – threshold voltage of 121B] from the common power supply line [Vcc], substantially unaffected by said drop.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 11/13/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Ishida does not disclose drive strength required to write data into individual ones of the memory cells, relative to a drive strength of the bit line circuits. This argument is not persuasive. According to page 7 lines 27-29 of applicant's specification, reducing drive strengths required to write data into individual ones of memory cells by reducing the voltage supply to the memory, which are invertors made

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of transistors [220, 222, 224, 226 in Fig. 2]. Fig. 1 of Ishida clearly discloses an internal voltage decreasing unit [11] reducing the power supply voltage [Vcc] and supply the reduced voltage [Vccin] to the memory cell [3]. As shown in Fig. 9 of Ishida, memory cell [3a] is made of by two invertors, which inherently made of by NMOS and PMOS transistors. Furthermore, paragraph 0057 of Ishida discloses that Vccin (reduced voltage) is supplied to the memory cell [3]. As disclosed by applicant, drive strength reduced if the voltage supplied to the memory cell reduced. Ishida clearly discloses a reduced voltage [Vccin] supply to memory cell [3a], thus reduced drive strengths required to write data into individual ones of the memory cells, relative to a drive strength of the bit line circuits [also drive by a reduced voltage Vccin]. Therefore, applicant's argument is fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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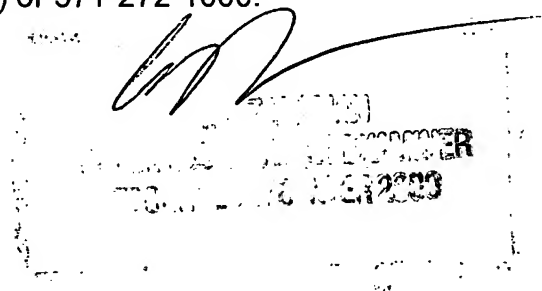
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthan T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-8709. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, AMIR ZARABIAN can be reached on 571-272-1852. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Anthan Tran
AT



A handwritten signature in black ink is written over a rectangular stamp. The stamp contains the text "EXAMINER" and "DEC 2009" in a bold, sans-serif font. The signature is a stylized, cursive-like "AT" followed by a long horizontal line.